



Town of Barre VERMONT

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING November 8, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving November 1, Selectboard meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Consider adopting 5-Year Equipment Purchase Plan for fiscal year 2023-2024
8. Consider adopting 5-Year Road Paving Plan for fiscal year 2023-2024
9. Consider authorizing road salt purchase agreement
10. Consider authorizing closing gravel section of Sterling Hill Road
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for November 8, 2022
12. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits if any
13. Round the table
14. Executive session: personnel
15. Adjourn

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of November 8, 2022 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

Selectboard Members Present: Paul White, Norma Malone, Justin Bolduc, Bob Nelson, and W. John “Jack” Mitchell.

Selectboard Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Clerk Jennifer Bushway, Town Engineer Josh Martineau, Shop Foreman Mike Martel. Those attending virtually: Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette.

Others Present: Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE THE AGENDA:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the November 1, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The lawn waste site on Holden Road will be open Saturday, November 12 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Do not leave bags, plastic sheeting, or tarps behind.
- The Town's prohibition on parking on the street from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. starts November 1. Please plan to park vehicles off the street overnight.
- The second quarterly property tax installment is due November 15. Pay in person in the Town Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday or drop-off your payment in one of the drop boxes at the front of the municipal building.
- Cyclists, walkers, runners please help keep yourself safe by wearing light colored outer clothing, something that reflects light such as a vest or jacket and carry a flashlight or use light on your bike.
- Our former Deputy Health Officer was appointed Town Health Officer creating a vacancy in the Deputy position. The Deputy fills in for the Health Officer when the Health Officer is not available. Barre Town sees about a dozen Health Officer calls per year. For more information about the position contact the Town Manager's Office.
- There is a vacancy on the Recreation Board. We are accepting letters and emails of interest from Town residents who would like to serve on this active Board. The 7-member Recreation Board meets the first Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. To learn more, visit the Town website and use the Boards and Commissions link or call the Town Manager's Office. We would appreciate receiving applications by noon on Wednesday, November 23.
- The Barre Congregational Church once again is offering the Thanksgiving morning 5k run or walk Gobble Wobble Turkey Trot. Runners and walkers will be using Websterville Road from the school to the 4-way intersection by the cemeteries and Graniteville Road from that intersection to Rock of Ages. Race time is 9:30 a.m., so drivers will see participants on the road from shortly after 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Please slow down when near runners and walkers.

GUESTS: None

5-YEAR EQUIPMENT PLAN:

Background: This Plan is an annual action and is an important preliminary step in budget preparation. Each fund/department that uses equipment pays into the Equipment Fund to make the purchases. A memo was provided to the Board that outlines the process.

Selectboard Minutes of November 8, 2022 Continued:

Shop Foreman Mike Martel and Town Engineer Josh Martineau were present. The Board was provided with a memo that outlined the steps used in preparing the 5-Year Plan.

Board members discussed pushing off the purchase of the ambulances due to the lack of mileage from 2020. Shop Foreman Mike Martel suggested keeping the vehicle as a spare due to the lack of inventory that is currently available.

On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the 5-Year Equipment Purchase plan for fiscal year 2023-2024 as presented.

5-YEAR ROAD PAVING PLAN:

Background: The Selectboard received a copy of the proposed 5-Year Road Paving Plan. This year Public Works Supervisor Richard Tetreault, Town Engineer Josh Martineau and Town Manager Carl Rogers rerated the roads and calculated new Priority Scores. Based on the price of paving in 2022, they used \$90 per ton to estimate paving costs in the 5-Year Plan. That is \$11 per ton or 13.9% increase compared to the price that was used for the 2023-2023 Plan.

Town Engineer Josh Martineau was present.

Town Manager Carl Rogers stated there were a few changes, but the biggest change is the cost increase. Based on the price of paving in 2022, they used \$90 per ton to estimate paving costs in the 5-Year Plan. That is \$11 per ton, or a 13.9% increase compared to the price that was used for the 2023-2024 5-Year Plan. The milling is \$2.00 per square yard.

Mr. Rogers noted that Town Engineer Josh Martineau has consolidated neighborhoods within the Plan, the side streets are within the same year now. Mr. Roger noted the Town aims to pave 35,000 – 40,000 linear feet per year.

Board members discussed the road Priority Scores and shared concerns around road conditions.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt the FY 2024 5-Year Road Paving Plan as modified.

PURCHASE OF ROAD SALT:

Background: Typically, American Rock Salt and Cargill bid for the AOT's District 6 salt contract and offer a price for municipalities to purchase. Town Manager Carl Rogers spoke with a rep from Vermont Building and General Services and learned there were no bids for District 6. The Manager contacted American Rock Salt (ARS), which in the past supplied to DuBois Construction at the DuBois' Middlesex location. Mr. Rogers learned that because DuBois Construction sold, ARS lost its distributor for District 6. ARS suggested the Town call Compass Mineral which has the District 8 and 9 contracts. In the meantime, Cargill sent a proposal for \$86 per ton or \$17 per ton more than the Town paid its primary supplier last winter.

Town Manager Carl Rogers stated fortunately the Town's salt building was filled last spring and has enough salt for about half of the winter. It was filled last spring at \$67 and \$69 per ton. The hope is that the '23 -'24 salt price will be lower when there is competition for bids and more salt can be purchased at that time.

Selectboard Minutes of November 8, 2022 Continued:

Board members shared concerns around the lack of salt distributors. Town Engineer Josh Martineau suggested a mutualized agreement with central Towns for a distribution/storage area.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign Cargill's 2022 road salt quote a \$86.00 per ton.

STERLING HILL ROAD – WINTER ROAD CLOSURE

Background: Annually the gravel section of Sterling Hill Road is closed for the winter. The Board is being asked to authorize this action.

Town Engineer Josh Martineau suggests closing the gravel section on November 18 and keeping it closed for the winter.

On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the gravel road section of Sterling Hill Road be closed on November 18 and remain closed until next spring when the public works superintendent determines it can be safely opened to traffic.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 8, 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS: None

ROUND TABLE:

Paul White:

- Chair White inquired about the status of the Town Forest Committee meetings. Town Manager Carl Rogers confirmed the first meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21.

Jack Mitchell:

- Mr. Mitchell commented on the Police Chief's memo regarding the closure of the holding cells. He suggested starting a conversation with the City.

Justin Bolduc

- Mr. Bolduc inquired about the Final Notice of Intent for the Wildersburg stormwater project. Mr. Rogers gave a brief explanation of the Final Notice of Intent. Conversation continued as Board members discussed the fee associated with the project, HOA, and grant funding.
- Mr. Bolduc stated he spoke with the landlord of the property regarding the infamous streetlights that he previously inquired about. Mr. Bolduc noted that the Town has permission to remove the tree limbs.

Norma Malone:

- Mrs. Malone inquired about the Board packet notes regarding the Town's building projects. Town Manager Carl Rogers stated that he met with Alfred Ladd who will be hired as an employee to work on Town building projects. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Ladd have reviewed a few projects that are on the horizon to be completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to find the need to go into executive session citing premature general knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 7:17 p.m. for personnel.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 8:38 p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

Barre Town Selectboard

Paul White, Chair

Norma Malone, Vice Chair

Justin Bolduc

Jack Mitchell

Bob Nelson

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2022.

ATTEST: _____, Barre Town Clerk.